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DR. DOV JOSEPH, as Minister of Health, should have been better informed by his advisers before calling for the removal of the statue of the Russian soldier in the Garden of Remembrance.

WEED TYPE OF DISPUTE

The slow or passive resistance movement of the doctors, which is having an increasingly serious effect on the staffing of hospitals and causing a cumulative danger to the public. As one of the Ministers representing Labour in the Government, Dr. Joseph was obviously sensitive to the charge which was bound to be levelled against the Health Ministry's intention to employ temporary "black-leg" medical help to staff the depleted wards. This was shown by his own explanation that since the doctors were not actually on strike the Ministry could not be said to be seeking to call in strike-breakers.

In fact just as the doctors could not find an excuse for their conduct by pretending that what they were doing was not a strike, so Dr. Joseph could not hope at one and the same time to invite relief and escape the charge of using methods abhorrent to organized labour. By what name it is called the total or partial withdrawal of labour by an organized body of workers is a strike.

In the event, there has been no noticeable response to the appeal for volunteers. For in the mood in which the doctors are at the moment, there is little doubt that had such recruits found their way into the hospital wards they would have only stayed to witness their colleagues walk out. This is also the form such disputes inevitably take. All that has been accomplished is that the doctors are arguing that if there was money to pay for extra help, then the same money should have been forthcoming in token of the negotiations at the beginning of August.

The fact is that Dr. Joseph walked right into the middle of a very vexed type of dispute in which no one can embrace either side wholeheartedly. There is every public sympathy with the doctors' case but a good deal of reserve about a course of action which they have taken which, however interpreted, is in some sense a breach of their professional oath. There is also a good deal of understanding of a minister who has rightly won the reputation of a man who believes in action, in his desire to ensure the provision of full medical services for the public.

The course now open to the Government would appear to be a direct one. They must reiterate that the offer made on June 26 still stands; that the whole question will be considered at the beginning of August, that the retroactivity of payment will be fluid and subject to negotiation. The Government should insist that there is no good reason why their word on this matter should be doubted. This would then place the onus for continuing the present dangerous situation on the doctors. The doctors, for their part, would be serving their own cause well if they saw to it that the position in hospitals and clinics does not deteriorate, for their intention was undoubtedly rather to bring pressure on the government than allow things to drift into a state where the sick would be placed in jeopardy.

THE symbol of the General Zionists Party or at least their official organ, "Haboker," can hardly be that of the Republican Party in America; PARTISAN for while the elephant never forgets, "Haboker" remembers only what suits its immediate purposes. Perhaps this is not extraordinary for when a politician comes up against a statesman, he is at a great disadvantage. A politician is defined as one who is interested in what tomorrow's papers say about him, a statesman in actions to leave the verdict on his actions and savings to history.

At this is a case of "Haboker's" pathetic attempt to smear Mr. Sharetz by alleging that he had for two months concealed the facts about the systematic destruction of Hungarian Jewry by the Nazis in 1944. In fact, at the time, on June 4, 1944, to be precise, "Haboker" itself was one of the papers which gave the resolution of the Vaad Leumi most of its front-page. Among other things published there was a resolution of that body with which Mr. Sharetz was intimately associated, which stated specifically that "tens of thousands of Jews have already been sent to death following their deportation to the death camps."

That "Haboker" contrived to overlook this fact can only be ascribed to Party animosity.

American Tour of Eastern Sector Russian Show Places in Berlin

By RAYMOND F. BRANDT

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BERLIN. — A Soviet Russian visitor to East Berlin is permitted to see many and talk to very few natives. A brief automobile trip, however, suffices for a graphic comparison with the better-dressed, better-fed and better-housed residents of the American and British sectors.

The Russians have made three spectacular show places for their own people and the East Germans. Two, unequalled by anything I ever saw in Russia, are masterpieces of propaganda: first, Stalin Alley, an impressive facade of six-to-ten-story buildings with attractive ground floor shops; second, the Red Army Memorial, a superbly placed and superbly placed monument to the Soviet War Memorial in the British sector, brought from Leningrad by the Army.

The Garden of Remembrance has at one end an expressive bronze statue of a Soviet soldier, a young Russian soldier who was killed in the Battle of Berlin. At the other end is a hall of fame with a monumental bronze statue of a Soviet soldier carrying a child representing the future of Russia. Between these figures are two lowered flags made of the polished red granite used in the Lenin-Stalin Mausoleum in Moscow's Red Square. At the base of each dropped flag a bronze Russian soldier kneels with bowed head.

Well Arranged

Although there is an unharmonious mixture of forms and materials, the grouping, landscaping and perspective are so expertly arranged that the warnings against smoking and boisterous conduct are unnecessary. Young Russian privates brought in trucks to this burial ground of 2,600 compatriots who lost their lives in taking Berlin, in the last days of their campaign, the beautifully arranged statue of Mother Russia.

These show places, more Russian than Communist, are part of a three-hour sightseeing tour arranged by the American Army's special service section to see the three principal sectors. The price is 25 cents, one of the best bargains in Europe. An expensive taxi trip through the side streets of East Berlin reveals, however, the underlying effects of ten years of Russian occupation and Communist control.

On arrival at Schoenefeld Airport, it required the changing of \$15 into East German marks to convince the customs inspector that I could pay the estimated taxi fare in local currency. He refused to change the rubles I had left over from Russia, although ruble quotations were arranged by the American official Russian shrunken when I asked how I could ever get to Berlin.

A clerk in a nearby restaurant called one, which took 40 minutes to arrive. Outside the guardhouse, we were stopped by a road block manned by Russian soldiers. An American passport and a Russian visa were too much for the private who called in superiors. One took enough time with the visa to memorize it. The taxi driver had to show his identity papers before the gate was swung back.

It may be unfair to compare the Russian sector with those of the United States and Britain. Being in possession, the Kremlin took the industrial part of the city. The British chose the shopping centre, and the American the residential district, perhaps a symbol of national characteristics and tastes.

The route was over cobbled streets, some carrying small,

antiquated trolley cars. The relatively few natives about were better dressed than I discovered; particularly they had more substantial shoes, better even than those seen in Kiev, the most prosperous-looking Russian city I had visited. It may have been imagination based on reports from American correspondents who had visited the East European countries, but the East Berliners did not look as happy and relaxed as the Russians.

Little construction work was evident, and none of the size seen in Russia for apartments and industrial buildings. There were many makeshift shacks and the better apartment houses, like those I had seen in Vienna in 1931, were built before the war. The driver said: "Neating of the city, bicycles and small automobiles increased in number but nothing like those seen in the American and British sectors. Also fewer were the industrial trucks, from one to five tons, seen everywhere in Russia, city and country."

Stalin Alley and its sleek-looking motor cars, and the many window shoppers. At no place were there queues, as in Moscow and Leningrad. This street was formerly "Frankfurter Alley," and most of its buildings were completely razed by bombing and artillery fire. An uncompleted portion showed the original architecture. New buildings are typically Russian, a "postwar Moscow modern" of yellow brick or stone.

This is the north of a series of articles on "Russia Revisited."

Readers' Letters

JUSTICE

Editor, The Jerusalem Post. — In a letter published by you today, a correspondent asks whether a certain driver, upon being discharged after serving a sentence of 18 months, was employed by the Jewish Agency. The Agency's answer was that the driver had been discharged from a tractor station without the Agency's knowledge and is no longer employed there. I think that the attitude expressed in these letters is very far from being just and fair. A man should not lose his natural right and earn a living after having served his punishment for his offence. He must be given a fair chance to start life all over again.

It is a pity that the reaction of your correspondent is typical of many sectors of the public. The result is that discharged prisoners, back to crime, upon finding out that they cannot get a job, they treat them as if they were disgraced for life. This is a well-known fact in police and legal circles.

I wish to recall to your readers the words of our sages of blessed memory: "After he was punished, he is his brother" (Mishna Makot 3:15; Rashi on Deut. 25 v. 3).

WITNESSES

Editor, The Jerusalem Post. — I was recently requested to appear as a witness in the Haifa District Court. The hearing was fixed for 8.30 a.m. After a two-hour wait, I was postponed until 11:00 a.m. When I returned at that hour, I had to wait until 1:30 p.m. before I was called. After a wait from one small bench, which was occupied, no seats were available, I was obliged, therefore, to spend all that time standing in the open under the blazing sun, with no shade anywhere near, outside the wooden hut where the courtroom was situated.

If the cooperation of the public is requested, surely it is about time that suitable and humane accommodation for witnesses was provided and certainly arrangements could be made not to invite all the parties at the same time, which has become a most unnecessary burden on the public.

Yours, etc.,
SHULAMIT KLATZRO
Tel Aviv.

HADAR YOSEF SLUMS

Editor, The Jerusalem Post. — Sir, Hadar Yosef has been cursed with the problem of overcrowding, like Ashdod-Jaffa, ever since they were rushed up by

expanding the city's housing needs. The buildings were reconstructed under Russian orders and seem to be well built, not a great deal of traffic was moving when we went through (Kurfurstendamm) the shopping street in the British sector, is busy as an American city street.

War damage in the Eastern sector became more evident as we went into Unter Den Linden. Here, again, we were stopped, and again the private, apparently German, had to call a superior. Again, there was a close reading of my passport and visa. The driver had to promise to come back the same way within an hour. There was no checkup as we went into the Western sector. I asked the driver if he would take dollars for the trip. He replied that this was forbidden, and if he was caught with dollars he would go to prison. For emphasis he held up his hands as if he was handcuffed.

Seeing these large colonies of the bird in one single spot, one can well imagine their gathering in their tens of thousands in the drought of summer. The Spanish Sparrows don't build in houses, but in trees, and in the ruined village of Khasan near Hagahrim, that lovely rest-house and kibbutz where last year a fire raged and killed off a good many of the old Arab families, and where there are huge colonies among the dead, wintry-looking branches, as many as a dozen in one tree.

NATURE NOTES

Sparrow Pests

LAST year, I mentioned a pest of sparrows which in their thousands destroyed experimental summer crops in Mass (the Beisan Valley). This summer, for the first time, I have come across criminals in person. In appearance they differ only slightly from the house sparrow we all know, the male especially being blacker where our sparrow is brown, and lighter where ours is dun, so that on the whole his colours are brighter. But their habits are very different.

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FOREIGN TRADE FIGURES

Editor, The Jerusalem Post. — According to an INA report published in your issue of July 5, a U.S. Congress report has been issued containing statistical data on total Israeli foreign trade, and Israeli trade with the Soviet Bloc in 1954. You also quoted in comparison the annual figures published in the Statistical Bulletin of Israel which do not tally with the data given in the Congress Report.

The cause of the discrepancy lies in the fact that the figures on total exports and imports (and \$285.2m.) and exports to and imports from the Soviet Bloc (\$21.2m. and \$6.3m.) as given in the Congress Report relate, in fact, to the first eleven months of 1954 only. These figures correspond with those published in the Statistical Bulletin of Israel, January-1955 (Vol. VI, No. 3).

Yours, etc.,
E. LEVY
Publication and Information Section, Central Bureau of Statistics, Jerusalem, July 11.

A JOB FOR JOBLESS

Editor, The Jerusalem Post. — In former years, Tel Aviv prided herself on being one of the cleanest cities in the world. Then, during our war years, there were worries and enough money and people to keep our city clean. The years of austerity have passed; everything is available now, though money is scarce. The city which Tel Aviv citizens pay to include money for the upkeep of cleanliness, too. It is no pleasure to walk through the streets of our town and see pieces of paper, empty tins, cigarette boxes, etc. lying around and disfiguring the city. There are citizens who don't notice any more and that is even worse. What impression does it make on tourists and foreigners?

Why not organize older people who are jobless (as they are in Haifa) to do part of the cleaning and be responsible for it? It would help us and do them good. I suppose that every citizen would be ready to pay a little extra directly to these people to keep our Tel Aviv clean and shining and its people healthy.

Yours, etc.,
SHULAMIT KLATZRO
Tel Aviv.

INGRATITUDE

Editor, The Jerusalem Post. — Sir, In your issue of July 12 I read with great distress Mr. Ben-Gurion's statement that "it is not easy for an Israeli to be proud of his teachers, doctors or nurses."

As an Israeli housewife, I strongly resent Mr. Ben-Gurion telling me whom and whom not to be proud of. I am sure that there are lots of Israelis who, like myself, are very much indebted to our teachers, nurses and doctors who have been working under great strain. It is common knowledge that these professions are understaffed and that the salaries are in no way in accordance with the work they are doing. I sincerely hope that this situation will improve in the near future. I am very

Winner of IL 5,000

Sergeant Hana Weintraub, No. 38 Rehov Gimel, of Tel. Amal, won IL5,000 in the last Mifal Hapayis drawing.

How Beit Alpha Relic Was Saved

The Old Man and the Mosaic

By ANITA ENGLE

PEOPLE all over the world have seen reproductions of the quaint Zodiac and the Sacrifice of Isaac, which are the highlights of the sixth-century mosaic floor of the Beit Alpha synagogue. Also pictured there are ritual objects used at the time, and actual representations of the produce of the farmyards, fields and rivers of the fertile Beisan Valley some 1,400 years ago. Some of these delightfully naïve designs have already passed into the field of modern art.

The name of Peril Pelzig, master craftsman and artist who restored the floor some four years ago, is known to many. Unknown, however, is the story how this precious heritage was saved from destruction during the two decades which elapsed between its discovery in 1928 and its restoration.

It had been studied and recorded by Professor E.I. Suknik, for two months, the floor was covered by a rough roof and left to rot for almost 20 years. Funds, all too scant for excavation purposes, rarely extend to adequate protection of sites once they have been excavated.

The synagogue is situated at the foot of Mt. Gilboa, whose bulk pressing on the surrounding plain, causes the earth to vibrate, and even produces slight tremors from time to time. It was due to one of the more severe tremors that the synagogue was demolished, but the building, and became associated with one of the country's leading architects. He never gave up his interest in the Beit Alpha floor, and the elderly custodian's concern over its steady deterioration.

"It is thanks to this old man that the Beit Alpha mosaic remains today," Peril told me. After the war, he gave up his job in a restaurant, and for three years lived in a shack at Heftziba with his wife and child. The personal difficulties, and conditions of work were such that he often felt like giving up the project. "Two things gave me the strength to carry on," he said. "Enthusiasm for the floor, and devotion to the ideal of the old man."

He repaired 70 out of the 100 square metres of mosaic, working metre by metre, consolidating the pieces painstakingly and putting in eight centimetres of cement base under the tesserae instead of their plaster foundation. To overcome the disintegration of the vibrating earth, Pelzig made a "floating" base for the floor.

In the course of his work, he discovered the remains of a much older synagogue floor. It was the work of a master craftsman, much more accomplished and sophisticated than the sixth century floor, which had been made by "folk" workers. "It is this archaeological which gives the Beit Alpha floor its value," Pelzig says. "The design of the later floor is much more

PEN FRIENDS

BRIE BHUSHAN, 17, of 30 Thayer Way, Street, "Kfar Yehoshua," Meurut City, U.P. India. Hobbies: stamp collecting, first-day covers, pen friendship and movies.

A. S. RAJENDRA, 18, of No. 18 41st Lane, Wellawatte, Colombo, now preparing for University preliminary examinations. Hobbies: stamps, magazines and photography.

KAY JACOBS is looking for Joseph Ocker, who started corresponding with her two years ago while she was hospitalized, and whose address she has lost. Her address is 56 Bayville Drive, Leeds 7, Yorkshire, England.

A group of five boys interested in collecting stamps of Israel wish to correspond and exchange stamps with Israelis. Write to Raymond Patton, R.F.D. 3, East Stroudsburg, Pa. U.S.A.

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2 against 4

Civil Servants, Policemen, the Army and Teachers were paid late - sometimes months late.

Sugar, fat and oil rationed behind; the flour stocks were barely sufficient for one more week.

Prices doubled within three months and the frantically rising Index lipped painfully behind.

That was the state of the country - only thirty months ago - when the General Zionists were called in to join the Government. They were only four out of sixteen Cabinet Ministers; yet through a hard and bitter struggle they achieved:

1. STABILIZATION OF THE CURRENCY

2. STABILIZATION OF PRICES

3. ABROGATION OF GOVT. CONTROLS AND THE RETURN TO FREE ENTERPRISE

4. THE END OF THE BLACK MARKET

5. ABUNDANCE OF FOOD AND GOODS

6. GREATER PRODUCTION AND MORE EXPORTS

7. A MORE FAVOURABLE TRADE BALANCE

8. NEW CONFIDENCE IN OUR ECONOMY

9. FAIRER TAXATION

10. ONE NATIONAL SCHOOL SYSTEM, ONE FLAG, ONE ANTHEM

Human Dignity Restored at Home -

Respect for The State Abroad

All this was achieved by a few against many.

With greater strength more could have been achieved.

If we are to continue the fight, it is up to you to give us greater strength.

ONLY STRENGTH CAN HALT FORCE

DO NOT WASTE YOUR STRENGTH ON HANGERS-ON!

VOTE

GENERAL ZIONISTS ORGANIZATION IN ISRAEL

CENTRE PARTY

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